

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2005

House Meets At...	Last Vote Predicted At...
10:00 a.m.: Legislative Business Unlimited "One Minutes"	9:00 – 11:00 p.m.

**** DEMOCRATS ARE URGED TO SIGN THE MARSHALL DISCHARGE PETITION (No. 2) TO ELIMINATE THE DISABLED VETERANS’ TAX (CONCURRENT RECEIPT). THIS DISCHARGE PETITION WOULD FORCE ACTION ON H.R. 303 -- A BILL TO PROVIDE FULL RETIREMENT PAY AND DISABILITY PAY TO DISABLED MILITARY RETIREES.**

FLOOR SCHEDULE AND BILL SUMMARY

Suspensions (1 bill):
1) H.Con.Res. 159 - Recognizing the sacrifices being made by the families of members of the Armed Forces and supporting the designation of a week as National Military Families Week (*Rep. Boozman - Armed Services*)

H.Res. 304 - Rule providing for consideration of H.J.Res. 27 - Withdrawing the approval of the United States from the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (*Rep. Hastings (WA) - Rules*). The Rules Committee has recommended a closed rule that provides two hours of general debate. H.J.Res. 27 is expected to be considered tomorrow.

H.R. 2744 – Agriculture Appropriations Act for FY 2006 (*Rep. Bonilla – Appropriations*) (*Subject to a Rule*). This bill provides \$100.3 billion for the Agriculture Department, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and other agencies -- with mandatory spending accounting for \$82.82 billion. Funding highlights in this bill include: \$58.7 billion for Domestic Food Programs (\$40.7 billion for the Food Stamp Program; \$12.41 billion for Child Nutrition Programs; \$5.3 billion for WIC); \$35.23 billion for Agricultural Programs (\$25.69 billion for the Commodity Credit Corporation; \$3.15 billion for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation Fund; \$1.56 billion for Farm Assistance Programs; \$1.12 billion for Agricultural Research Service; \$828 million for Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service); \$2.43 billion for Rural Development Programs; \$1.44 billion for Foreign Aid and Export Programs; \$1.58 billion for the FDA; and \$939 million for Conservation Programs. HR 2744 also includes a provision that prevents the FDA from blocking the re-importation of prescription medicines from other countries (the Medicare law enacted two years ago only permits the importation of such drugs upon the certification of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, which the Secretary has refused to do); and language to postpone for another year the requirement that meat be labeled as to its country of origin.

The Rules Committee has recommended an open Rule that provides one hour of general debate and one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Amendments that do not require waivers of points of order will be considered under the five-minute rule.

TOMORROW’S OUTLOOK

The GOP Leadership has announced the following schedule: on Thursday, the House will meet at 10:00 a.m. for legislative business. The House is expected to consider **H.R. 2475 – Intelligence Authorization Act for FY 2006 (*Rep. Hoekstra – Intelligence*) (*Subject to a Rule*);** and **H.J.Res.27 – Withdrawing the approval of the United States from the Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization (*Rep. Sanders – Ways and Means*).**

Daily Quote...

“Despite the fact that Reublicans control the White House and both chambers on Capitol Hill, there's little legislation so far to distinguish this Congress.”

- News story in the *Minneapolis Star-Tribune*, June 7, 2005